

# **BIOCHECK PIG**

## **Backyard/Small-scale pig production**



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## Glossary

**Backyard farm:**

Property of a typical house or yard, that is turned into a mini farm. Pigs can be produced for own use or the direct surrounding (friends, family,...) and a profit can be gained. Furthermore, animals could also be kept as companion/pet pigs. A backyard farm can be a large or small yard, a balcony, part of the house, etc.

**Deadstock or carcasses:**

Deceased animals on the establishment

**Establishment:**

The entire farm premises, including all buildings (if present) and the entire outdoor area. It includes premises/households with any number of pigs.

**Suckling piglets:**

Piglets kept together with the sow, consuming milk from the sow.

**Weaned piglets:**

Young piglets consuming feed other than sow milk.

**Fattening pigs:**

Pigs weighing more than 50kg and/or older than 3 months.

## ~. Farm characteristics

I. How many pigs are there (on average) in the establishment?

.....

II. Which of the following animal categories are present in the establishment? *(required)*

*Check any that apply.*

- ☐ Sows/gilts
- ☐ Boars
- ☐ Suckling piglets
- ☐ Weaned piglets
- ☐ Fattening pigs
- ☐ Pet pigs

III. How many years of experience in keeping pigs does the day-to-day caretaker of the pigs have?

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IV. What is your primary purpose of keeping pigs?

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Meat production for own use
- ☐ Sales of pigs
- ☐ Meat/meat product sales
- ☐ Method of payment
- ☐ Piggy bank (type of saving)
- ☐ Special occasion slaughter (e.g. Saints' days)
- ☐ Companion/pet
- ☐ Rescue sanctuary
- ☐ Tourism (e.g. petting zoo)

## A. Location and housing

1. What is the distance between your establishment and the nearest backyard establishment where pigs are kept? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Less than 50m
- ☐ Between 50m and 100m
- ☐ Between 100m and 500m
- ☐ More than 500m

2. What is the distance between your establishment and the nearest intensive pig farm? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Less than 100m
- ☐ Between 100m and 500m
- ☐ Between 500m and 1km
- ☐ More than 1km

3. Are all pigs present in your establishment individually identified (e.g. with a unique ear tag, a stamp, ...)? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

4. Are the pigs kept indoors or outdoors? *(required)*

*Even small huts or open pens/houses are considered indoor holding areas. Outdoors include an enclosed outdoor space and free roaming.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always indoors
- ☐ Always outdoors
- ☐ Combination indoors and outdoors

*If "Always outdoors" is chosen, go to question 6.*

5. Are you able to shut pigs into the indoor housing areas? *(required)*

*Even small huts or open pens/houses are considered indoor holding areas.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*If "Always indoors" was chosen in question 4, go to question 10.*

6. Is the outdoor area enclosed or open (free roaming)? *(required)*

*In case the pigs are able to escape the enclosed yard or roam freely (only during the day or seasonal), choose "Open (free roaming)".*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Enclosed
- ☐ Open (free roaming)

*If "Open (free roaming)" is chosen, go to question 10.*

7. Is the outdoor area enclosed by wild-pig (wild boar/warthog)-proof fences? *(required)*

*A wild-pig-proof fence is a double row of fencing made from metal net or wire with a minimum height of 1.5m or a solid fence made of metal, masonry, or other solid material with a minimum height of 1.5m.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 9.*

8. Are the wild-pig-proof fences inspected on a regular basis (i.e. at least four times a year) to identify breaches and repaired if needed? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

9. Is direct nose-to-nose contact between your pigs and pigs from neighbouring establishments possible? *(required)*

*Keep in mind the height of the separation with the neighbouring establishment and the presence of any breaches.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

10. Have wild pigs (or their traces) been spotted within a 5 km radius of your establishment during the last year? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

11. Are there, besides pigs, any other farm animals (e.g. poultry, cattle, small ruminants,...) kept on your establishment? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 13.*

12. Do the pigs share the same indoor or outdoor area with these other farm animals at the same time? *(required)*.

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

## B. Entrance of new pigs

13. Did new pigs enter your establishment in the last 2 years? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*If “No” is chosen, go to question 19.*

14. Are the new pigs always received from the same supplier/farm? *(required)*

*If only one new animal entered in the last 2 years, choose “Always the same supplier”.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always the same supplier
- ☐ Sometimes a different supplier
- ☐ Always a different supplier

15. How many times per year do new pigs enter your establishment? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Less than once a year
- ☐ Between once and twice a year
- ☐ More than twice a year

16. When new pigs are transported to the establishment, is it known whether the transport vehicle is cleaned and disinfected before loading? *(required)*

*The transport vehicle can be a truck, car, van, motorbike or bicycle.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes, cleaned and disinfected
- ☐ Only cleaned
- ☐ Not cleaned nor disinfected
- ☐ Pigs are transported without means of a vehicle
- ☐ I don't know

17. Are all new pigs quarantined in an area separate from other animals upon arrival? (required)

*The quarantine area can be a building or outdoor area but it should be completely separate from the rest of the animals. This means no direct, physical contact with other pigs is possible.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 19.*

18. What is the minimum duration (in days) of the quarantine period that you applied for pigs in the last year? (required)

.....

19. Have sows been bred on the farm in the last 2 years? (required)

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 23.*

20. Does breeding occur naturally or artificially? (required)

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Natural breeding
- ☐ Artificial insemination
- ☐ Both

*If "Artificial insemination" is chosen, go to question 22.*

21. Which boars are used for natural breeding? (required)

*Check any that apply.*

- ☐ Own boars that are always kept indoors or in an enclosed outdoor area
- ☐ Own boars that roam outside
- ☐ (Breeding) boars that are used on different establishments (e.g. "community breeding boar" that roam around/boars shared between villages)

*If "Natural breeding" was chosen in question 20, go to question 23.*

22. Does the purchased semen always originate from the same farm/boar station? (required)

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know



## C. Transport of pigs, removal of deadstock and manure

23. Are live pigs transported from your establishment e.g. to the slaughterhouse, or to another establishment? *(required)*

*If “No” is chosen it means that no live pigs ever leave the farm.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*If “No” is chosen, go to question 28.*

24. How are pigs transported from the establishment? *(required)*

*Check any that apply.*

- ☐ Internal (farm-owned) transport vehicle not shared with others
- ☐ Internal (farm-owned) transport vehicle shared with others
- ☐ External transport vehicle
- ☐ Pigs are transported without the means of a vehicle

*If **only** “Pigs are transported without the means of a vehicle” is selected, go to question 27.*

*If **only** “Internal (farm-owned) transport vehicle not shared with others” is chosen, go to question 28.*

25. Is the transport vehicle for the pigs empty (no other animals) on arrival at the establishment? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

*If “Sometimes” or “Never” is chosen, go to question 27.*

26. Is the transport vehicle for the pigs cleaned and disinfected before loading? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes, cleaned and disinfected
- ☐ Only cleaned
- ☐ Not cleaned nor disinfected
- ☐ I don't know

27. Is the driver/transporter in direct contact with your pigs when loading/picking up the animals (fattening pigs, sows, piglets)? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ No/there is no driver or transporter coming to the farm

28. Are any of your pigs slaughtered on your establishment in the past 2 years? *(required)*

Select one option.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

29. Do you take live pigs to the local market for sale, to fairs or to other farms? *(required)*

Select one option.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If "No" is chosen, go to question 33.

30. Do pigs that leave the establishment (e.g. market, fair,...) come back to the establishment afterwards? *(required)*

Select one option.

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

If "Never" is chosen, go to question 33.

31. Are the pigs that leave the establishment and return afterwards isolated from the other animals? *(required)*

*Isolation means that no direct, physical contact between the returning animals and other pigs is possible.*

Select one option.

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

If "Never" is chosen, go to question 33.

32. What is the minimum duration (in days) of the isolation period that you applied for pigs that return to the establishment? *(required)*

.....

33. Does the manure from your pigs leave the establishment? *(required)*

*Manure can leave the establishment for example when it is sold or when a communal disposal pit is used.*

Select one option.

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

34. Do you use pig manure as a fertilizer for your surrounding crop fields? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes, manure from my own pigs
- ☐ Yes, manure from my own pigs and other farms
- ☐ No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 36.*

35. Do you compost the manure before using it as fertilizer? *(required)*

*Select the option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

36. What happens with deadstock? *(required)*

*Composting is a natural decomposition process for organic waste.*

*Some answering options might be prohibited in your country. Please be aware that these surveys are used around the world.*

*Select the option most often used at your establishment.*

- ☐ It is composted
- ☐ It is collected by a rendering company
- ☐ It is buried/burned
- ☐ It is processed and used as swill feed on the farm
- ☐ It is consumed at home by the household or by pets
- ☐ It is thrown away in the environment
- ☐ It is brought to one central collection place in the village
- ☐ It is sold or "given to the community"
- ☐ There have been no dead pigs yet

*If "It is composted" is chosen, go to question 37.*

*If "It is buried/burned" is chosen, go to question 38.*

*If "There have been no dead pigs yet" is chosen, go to question 40.*

*If any of the other options is chosen, go to question 39.*

37. Is deadstock composted in a closed system? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes, dead pigs are composted inside a building that can be completely closed
- ☐ Yes, dead pigs are composted outside, in an enclosed system
- ☐ No

*Go to question 39.*

38. How are dead pigs buried/burned? *(required)*

*Buried in appropriate soil: deep burial in pits away from a groundwater source.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Dead pigs are burned in an incinerator (closed burning oven) on the establishment
- ☐ Dead pigs are buried in the appropriate soil on the establishment
- ☐ Dead pigs are buried elsewhere
- ☐ Other

39. Is deadstock manipulated with gloves only used for deadstock, or are hands cleaned with soap after the manipulation of deadstock? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

## D. Feed, water, equipment supply and pest control

### 40. What type of feed is used in your establishment? *(required)*

*Swill feed is food scraps or food waste that contains meat or has been in contact with meat. Swill feeding might be prohibited in your country. Please be aware that these surveys are used around the world.*

*Check any that apply.*

- ☐ Commercial formulated feed or commercial feed components
- ☐ Own/locally produced feed or natural crops (e.g. maize bran/gaga, corn, vegetables)
- ☐ Swill feed uncooked
- ☐ Swill feed cooked

### 41. Is the feeding system/trough cleaned and disinfected? *(required)*

*In case the construction of the feeding system/trough does not allow proper cleaning/disinfection, select 'Never'.*

	Once a week	Once a month	After each production cycle	Only when visibly dirty	Never	No feeding system
<b>Cleaned</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Disinfected</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 42. Where does the drinking water originate from? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Deep well water (e.g. borehole)
- ☐ Surface water (e.g. lake, river, spring)
- ☐ Rainwater
- ☐ Municipal water supply

### 43. How often is the drinking water system/trough cleaned and disinfected? *(required)*

*In case the construction of the drinking water system/trough does not allow proper cleaning/disinfection, select 'Never'.*

	Once a week	Once a month	After each production cycle	Only when visibly dirty	Never
<b>Cleaned</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Disinfected</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

44. How frequently is bacteriological analysis of the drinking water performed? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yearly or more frequent
- ☐ Every two years
- ☐ Less than every two years
- ☐ Never
- ☐ Never, I have a municipal water supply

45. Is your establishment located near open water (e.g. river, pond, lake,...) to which the pigs have access when outside? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

46. Is there any equipment, small or large, shared with other establishments that enters your establishment and/or has contact with your pigs? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 48.*

47. Does shared equipment get cleaned and disinfected before using it on your establishment? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

48. Do you practice rodent control (e.g. rodent traps)? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Ongoing rodent control is in place
- ☐ Rodent control is only performed when an infestation/overpopulation is noticed
- ☐ No

49. Can pets, wild animals and/or birds have direct contact with your pigs, animal feed or bedding material? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

## E. Visitors and workers

50. Did the farmer or farmworkers receive any kind of training on biosecurity in pig production in the last five years? *(required)*

*Training can be a diploma, e-learning courses, workshops, or webinars. The training can also be given by internal personnel as they have received certified training on their end.*

*If you do not have any farmworkers, select the answer option "Both have received any kind of training on biosecurity" or select the answer option "Neither of them has received any kind of training on biosecurity" when the farmer has not received training.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Both have received training on biosecurity
- ☐ Only one of them has received training on biosecurity
- ☐ Neither of them has received training on biosecurity

51. Are non-professional visitors (e.g. family members, neighbours, local school children) able to have contact with the pigs? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

52. Is farm specific clothing available that is strictly worn only to have contact with the pigs? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Available for the farmer and personnel only
- ☐ Available for everyone having contact with the pigs, including visitors
- ☐ Not available

53. Is farm specific footwear (boots/shoes) available that is strictly worn only to have contact with the pigs? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Available for the farmer and personnel only
- ☐ Available for everyone having contact with the pigs, including visitors
- ☐ Not available

54. Are hands washed before and/or after having contact with the pigs? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always before
- ☐ Always after
- ☐ Always before and after
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

55. Do you, your workers or visitors sometimes have contact with wild or domestic pigs other than those on the establishment? *(required)*

*Pigs at home, on other establishments, wild boars, hunting...*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know



## F. Disease management

56. Is there a plan for routine interventions such as vaccination and deworming and does this plan get executed? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

57. How often does a veterinarian or para-veterinarian (e.g. veterinary technician) visit your establishment? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ At least once a month
- ☐ Multiple times a year
- ☐ At least once a year
- ☐ Only when a problem arises
- ☐ Less than once a year/no veterinary consultation

58. Are needles used on the establishment? If so, how frequently are needles replaced? *(required)*

*Needles might be used for e.g. vaccination, iron injection, treatments*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Needles are used and replaced in between every pig
- ☐ Needles are used and replaced in between groups
- ☐ Needles are used and only replaced when blunt
- ☐ No needles are used on the establishment
- ☐ I don't know (e.g. the (para-)veterinarian treats the animals)

59. Are the pigs checked on a daily basis to control their health status and remove deadstock? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

60. Are runt pigs (stay-behinds e.g. due to unclear causes) and/or diseased pigs isolated from the healthy ones? *(required)*

*Isolated means they are not able to have direct, physical contact with healthy pigs.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always isolated from the healthy animals
- ☐ Sometimes isolated from the healthy animals
- ☐ Remain within their group
- ☐ Sold or slaughtered as soon as possible
- ☐ There have not been any runt/diseased pigs in the last 2 years

## G. Animal handling

### 61. Are breeding pigs kept separately from other pigs? *(required)*

*Separated means they are not able to have direct, physical contact with other animal categories.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

### 62. Is there an area separated from the other pigs where the sow can give birth? *(required)*

*Separated means they are not able to have direct, physical contact with other pigs including other breeding pigs/sows.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not relevant (e.g. sow is the only pig on the establishment)

### 63. How many times are the piglets routinely taken by hand (e.g. vaccination, castration, grinding of the teeth, tail-docking, ear-notching, ...) between birth and weaning? *(required)*

*Some of the manipulations mentioned in this question might be prohibited in your country. Please be aware that these surveys are used around the world. If multiple manipulations occur at the same moment, you can count this as one occasion.*

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### 64. Do materials/tools needed for routine treatment (e.g. castration, tail-docking or ear-notching) get cleaned and disinfected or replaced between different piglets? *(required)*

*If only water is used to rinse the materials, select "Materials/tools don't get cleaned and disinfected or replaced between each litter/group"*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Cleaned and disinfected or replaced between each piglet
- ☐ Cleaned and disinfected or replaced between each litter/group
- ☐ Materials/tools don't get cleaned and disinfected or replaced between each litter/group
- ☐ Not relevant (e.g. no routine treatment or all piglets died)
- ☐ I don't know (veterinarian performs these treatments)

65. Are weaned piglets kept separately from other pigs? *(required)*

*Separated means they are not able to have direct, physical contact with other animal categories.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

66. Are fattening pigs kept separately from other pigs? *(required)*

*Separated means they are not able to have direct, physical contact with other animal categories.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

## H. Cleaning and disinfection

67. Does the indoor area where pigs are kept have a solid floor (e.g. concrete flooring or wooden planks)? *(required)*

*In case it is mud flooring or pure soil select "No". Different types of bedding material can be used such as straw, wood shavings, etc.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes, without bedding material
- ☐ Yes, with bedding material
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

*If "Yes, without bedding material" is chosen, go to question 69.*

*If "Partially" or "No" is chosen, go to question 74.*

68. How often is the bedding material removed and replaced with new bedding material? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ More than once a week
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once every two weeks
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Less than once a month
- ☐ After each production cycle
- ☐ When visibly dirty
- ☐ Never

*If "Never" is chosen, go to question 74.*

69. How often is the indoor area cleaned? This includes poo picking. *(required)*

*This question concerns all indoor areas: farrowing crates, area for weaned piglets and/or fattening pigs.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ More than once a week
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once every two weeks
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Less than once a month
- ☐ After each production cycle
- ☐ When visibly dirty
- ☐ Never

*If "Never" is chosen, go to question 74.*

**70. Is the indoor area soaked with water before the start of the cleaning? (required)**

*This question concerns all indoor areas: farrowing crates, area for weaned piglets and/or fattening pigs.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never, I only practice dry cleaning

*If "Never, I only practice dry cleaning" is chosen, go to question 72.*

**71. Is detergent/soap added to the water during cleaning? (required)**

*This question concerns all indoor areas: farrowing crates, area for weaned piglets and/or fattening pigs.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

**72. Is the indoor area disinfected after cleaning? (required)**

*This question concerns all indoor areas: farrowing crates, area for weaned piglets and/or fattening pigs.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

**73. Is the indoor area fully dried before pigs enter? (required)**

*This question concerns all indoor areas: farrowing crates, area for weaned piglets and/or fattening pigs.*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

**74. Does the outdoor area consist of solid flooring (e.g. concrete or wooden planks)? (required)**

*In case it is mud flooring or pure soil select "No".*

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

*If "Partially" or "No" is chosen, go to question 80.*

75. How often is the outdoor area cleaned? This includes poo picking.  
(required)

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ More than once a week
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once every two weeks
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Less than once a month
- ☐ After each production cycle
- ☐ When visibly dirty
- ☐ Never

*If "Never" is chosen, go to question 80.*

76. Is the outdoor area soaked with water before the start of the cleaning? (required)

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never, I only practice dry cleaning

*If "Never, I only practice dry cleaning" is chosen, go to question 78.*

77. Is detergent/soap added to the water during cleaning of the outdoor area? (required)

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

78. Is the outdoor area disinfected after cleaning? (required)

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

79. Is the outdoor area fully dried before new pigs enter? (required)

*Select one option.*

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Never

80. Do pigs have access to human defecation sites when outdoors?  
(required)

*This means pig are able to have contact with human faecal matter.*

**Select one option.**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know